

SACRED DANCE GUILD JOURNAL

www.sacreddanceguild.org

SPRING 2009

VOLUME 51, NUMBER 3

Fired Up, Ready to Go New Jersey SDG Members To Host August 8, 2009 Annual Membership Meeting

The Annual Membership meeting will be held in the lush Garden State of New Jersey at **Caldwell College, Caldwell, NJ, at 1:00 on Saturday, August 8, 2009.** Following this is a dance workshop led by master teacher Mr. Wesley Yarbor. Mr. Yarbor brings his years of performing with the Alvin Ailey American Theatre to this exciting workshop. He currently works with the St. Luke's Liturgical Dancers from St. Luke's Episcopal Church in New Haven, CT, choreographing for and performing with the group.

Following this dynamic workshop is Sharing. A time for participants to share with others is one of the most cherished and popular activities at Sacred Dance Guild gatherings. Share a piece you are working on, something you have shared elsewhere or something spontaneous (maximum 5 minutes). Mary Kasakove is our Sharing Leader. You may contact her: MJK167@gmail.com.

The Executive Board will be meeting Friday night, Saturday and Sunday mornings. All are welcome. Meals

Continued on page 9

A Unique Trip for Sacred Dancers

The registration deadline for our Sacred Dance Guild's first INTERNATIONAL SACRED DANCE JOURNEY is May 20. This sacred dance pilgrimage to PERU for June 28-July 6, 2009 is not only a fundraising and outreaching effort by our Sacred Dance Guild but is uniquely designed for YOU. It includes opportunities to dance at various sacred sites, observe and then join in dancing with local Andean dancers, doing a Magic Dream Pillow Art Project with local children at Lake Titicaca, dancing a Labyrinth, receiving special blessings from Q'ero Elders, staying at first class hotels, and much more.

Andrea Mikana-Pinkham, Director of Sacred Sites Journeys, along with bilingual Dr. Jose (Pepe) Altamirano, former Director of the National Institute of Culture for Peru, have been co-leading these tours for over 15 years. They are working closely with out President Elect JoyBeth Lufty, who will be our Hostess, in designing this unique trip that is focused on sharing Sacred Dance in the Andes and at "The 7th Wonder of the World" and other Peruvian Sacred Sites.

Going to our website www.sacreddanceguild.org and clicking on our Sacred Dance Journey to Peru under Hot News will give you the details and forms that you need to get started towards this sacred dancing trip of a lifetime. Going to www.SacredSitesJourneys.com and clicking on SDG's Sacred Dance Journey to Peru will give you even

more pictures and tour details to get you even more excited. You can also e-mail JoyBeth Lufty directly at PE@sacred-danceguild.org for any questions you need answered concerning your own unique circumstances.

SD-GO SACRED DANCE GLOBAL OUTREACH

**Presents CultureFest:
Dancing Divine Diversity
September 18-20
Boston Metro Area**

*Dance as a sacred art...making the
world a better place.*

Please see page 8 for details.

President's Letter

I am the swinging of the hips; I am the dance. Do you feel the fire? Do not be afraid to move, to jump, to fly, to twirl. I am the movement. I am laughter and I am song. I am the dream you dream. I am what is not yet born, and I am what is forever. Christin Lore Weber from *Circle of Mysteries, The Woman's Rosary Book*

I joined the Sacred Dance Guild when it was twenty-five years old. I had the sense that it thought it was all grown up. Now the Guild is fifty years old, and we're beginning to know that we're in our infancy. Yes, we have broken dance barriers of language and spaces, but there are so many sanctuaries, stages and venues where dance has not happened in adequate ways. How many people have not yet experienced the power of sacred dance, either by watching or taking part? How many events could have been enhanced by a sacred dance? How many dancing opportunities have been missed?

We are sacred dancers, and it is our mission to dance, even where we're not welcome, or where we are needed most. We should dance at weddings and funerals, for healing and for fun, in feast and famine, and just because. As we enter our next fifty years I am excited about the direction SDG is heading: a trip in June to dance with the people of Peru, and a September money raising weekend to help disadvantaged young dancers. As we grow into adolescence let's jump and fly and twirl with dancers around the world. Let's dance with Buddhists and Hindus and Muslims and pagans. Let's dance in the ghettos and before the Pope. Let's dance in the trenches and the palaces. Let's dance in the backyard and on Main Street. Sacred dance is the laughter, the song, the dream, and what can last forever. Let's dance!

Karen Josephson



Photo by Stella Matsuda

Why is Christy Johnson so happy? See page 5 for the source of her joy.

Board of Directors

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The JOURNAL is the official publication of the Sacred Dance Guild, a non-profit international corporation, founded in 1958, and providing members with information and opportunities for enriching their faith through movement and dance. Reprints of articles in the JOURNAL are by permission of the Editor only. The Directory is intended only for the use of Guild members in carrying out the activities and purposes of the Guild.

Policy Statement The Sacred Dance Guild recommends and encourages its members to list their SDG affiliation when presenting workshops and performances. However, the Guild letterhead, logo and name are to be used only in connection with official Guild business and activities, as endorsed by a Chapter Board, Regional Director or Guild Executive Board. Official address: Sacred Dance Guild, 550M Ritchie Highway, #271, Severna Park, MD 21146. Editor's address: Toni Intravaia, 201 Hewitt, Carbondale, IL 62901. © Sacred Dance Guild, Inc. All rights reserved. ISSN 1043-5328. Sacred Dance Guild Web Site: www.sacreddanceguild.org. Corporate subscriptions to the JOURNAL are available for \$35. Membership to the Sacred Dance Guild is also available for the following rates: One-Year Membership (Domestic AND International, US Dollars) \$50.00; Two-Year Membership (Domestic AND International, US Dollars) \$80.00; One-Year Student Membership \$25; One-Year Senior (65+) Membership \$35.00; One-Year Group Membership \$90.00 and Life Membership \$1000.00. Members receive:

- Sacred Dance Guild Journal published two times a year
- Membership Directory with geographical and leadership listings printed bi-annually
- Calendar of Events published in the Journal and online with regional, national, and international activities
- Membership in Chapter or Region with local events and activities
- Reduced fees at the International Festival held annually in different locations within the United States
- Reduced fees at Guild workshops and those of reciprocal organizations
- Reduced cost for all Guild publications
- Opportunity to be listed as a resource in the Online Resource Database
- Opportunity to create your own website to be linked to the SDG website
- Ability to sign up for email reminders for events listed on SDG Event Calendars
- Opportunity to be part of the SDG Member News list where sacred dance issues, concerns, and ideas are shared among members from all over the world

Subscription and membership orders should go to Sacred Dance Guild, 550 M Ritchie Highway #271, Severna Park, MD 21146.

Deadlines for JOURNAL: August 15 and January 15. Deadlines for the Events Calendar are the same as for the Journal. Articles of 500 words or less, dance activity, Chapter/Region/membership news, letters and black and white/color photographs should be sent by deadline dates to: Sacred Dance Guild Journal: journal@sacreddanceguild.org or Toni Intravaia, Editor, 201 Hewitt, Carbondale, IL 62901.

EDITORIAL

When we were low in membership many years ago, Doug Adams suggested "Each One Reach One" and now we are in need to do this again to increase in numbers. So, you will note the title of the theme is Each One Reach One. And, you will see it throughout this publication.

There is discussion in altering our logo. Let us not. We are beginning to be recognized with this logo. It took about 20 years to get this one. Let us keep it. And for the new extended world group, let us find an adaptation. I just saw the colored brochure with our logo in color and it is Sacred Dance Guild.

Now that we will have only two *Journals* per year, I feel the Theme of the Fall *Journal* should be Sacred Dance Guild Global Outreach (SD-GO). As Editor since 1972, I truly feel that two per year will be good. But I am addressing Chapters especially when I ask for an article from

each chapter for the Fall issue. Let the Guild hear what you are doing and the gifts that help you in your pursuit of sacred dance.

You will note two new fantastic books listed by members Cynthia Winton-Henry and Connie Tyler. We are making such progress and yet there are still many who have not heard of us and thus have not become a part of the Guild. Remember "Each One Reach One."

Note from our Archivist, Mary Jane Wolbers. She now has all three Volumes of "And We Have Danced." And she wants the SDG to have the new address for Matteo. It is Matteo Vittucci, Actors Fund Home, 155 West Hudson Avenue, Englewood, New Jersey 07631.

Please continue to send your news, as well as dates for the Calendar of Events, to Toni' Intravaia, Editor, 201 Hewitt, Carbondale, IL 62901. The deadlines are August 15 and January 15.

Doing the Nominations Dance

By JoyBeth Luffy, SDG President Elect

Are you thinking about how your special skills and abilities can be used to help spread sacred dance?

Are you wanting to travel to different places and stay with local folks?

Do you want to experience the excitement of working with a group of creative movers?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, it just might be your time to become a part of your Sacred Dance Guild's Volunteer Board of Directors.... It is definitely time for your Sacred Dance Guild Board of Directors to bring on board a new President Elect, Vice President, two Membership Co-Directors and two Development Co-Directors this coming August at our Annual General Meeting in New Jersey. For full job description go to our web site at www.sacreddanceguild.org and click on ABOUT US, click on SDG GOVERNANCE, and click on JOB DESCRIPTIONS.

Being a part of SDG's Board of Directors means traveling to two Board Meetings per year, (on is held at Festival) participating in our Executive Board E-mail Group, writing up quarterly reports, utilizing your special skills and abilities for your position's tasks, and usually giving a three year commitment. It also means being part of a Director's Team and/or Presidential Leadership Team and laughing and sighing, dancing and praying with all the ins and outs of helping to spread and support SACRED DANCE worldwide.

Let us know if you are ready and willing to donate your time and energy to your Sacred Dance Guild via your Board of Directors by contacting our President Elect, JoyBeth Luffy, through PE@sacreddanceguild.org, souldelite@aol.com, or 207-469-7572.

**Join the
Sacred Dance Guild
on a journey to Peru!
See page 10 for details.**

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Typesetting/Design: Frances Becque

**Find yourself in the new photos
on our website.**

**Place your events on our
website calendar.**

www.sacreddanceguild.org

Join in Family Week at Ghost Ranch

By Kim Fields-Haley

If you cannot go on the trip to Peru, join Kim, Mike and Sedona Fields-Haley for a workshop during Family Week, entitled: "Embodying Faith: Dancing and Clowning Together" at Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu, June 29-July 5.

Explore fresh and fun expressions of faith, body, mind and spirit - through sacred dance and sacred clowning. Cultivate your creative gifts or discover new ones. We will share ways to more deeply embody Scripture, community, and connections with the world around us.

We will join in daily exercises waking up our creative juices. We will create pieces together as families. Creating these expressions is a spiritual tool, which can also be shared in communities of worship or bring a little joy to people in nursing homes and hospitals back home.

Besides the workshop, there will be morning worship, optional afternoon arts and low ropes activities, hiking, swimming, lots of music and evening campfires with other Family Camp participants. Plus, share in a unique Fourth of July celebration, Ranch style.

Email Kim at kfholydancer@msn.com with questions and see ghostranch.org for details.

Membership – A New Journey Begins

By MerleWade, Vice President

Collectively, the Guild expresses what draws us closer to the power of the Spirit of the Divine. How effectively has this expression enhanced your energy, supported your strength, encouraged your expectations and sustained your dedication and devotion to the Guild's mission?

The recent membership numbers suggest we are at a crossroads and after having celebrated our 50th year of service to the dance community at the 2008 Festival in New London, CT., we understand that NOW is the perfect time for ALL OF US to roll up our sleeves and help transform the Sacred Dance Guild for the 21st century.

"What can we do", you ask. The Guild needs YOUR body-spirits to reaffirm sacred movement as a language of faith. Rabbi Jonathan Siger, explained faith as a concept that does not require blind trust or suspending logic. "We don't need to believe in spite of everything," he said, "we believe because of everything." Membership in the Guild has enhanced our power and prayerfulness as we danced our liturgies and spiritualities; let us pass it on. The Guild needs connectedness. Imam Mohamed Musri from the Islamic Society said, "We hope for a better world." With your continued financial support and

membership, the Guild can expect to fulfill this expectation. We need you to think and dance globally.

How can we encourage the experience of movement as worship, prayer, healing and meditation, as an agent of social change, and as a message of peace? The Right Rev. Carol J. Gallagher, an Episcopal Bishop from Lyndhurst, NJ and a Cherokee Indian, suggests, "Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness." The Guild's future depends on its ability to engage and inspire collegial collaborations. Can YOU help?

The Guild is entering a new era of leadership, goal setting and creativity. The Executive board is humbled by the opportunity to serve, to effect great things in the future and realizes it cannot make the journey alone. It will take the commitment of every member to "dream beyond our relations, achieve beyond our circumstances and love without limit."

The Guild needs YOU to bring about effective change and growth. We have the knowledge; we have the skills. Your financial support of the Guild will promote inspiration that can lead to innovation. We challenge you to be membership champions. "Each One, Reach One."

Dance Day Preparations

By Dr. Alkis Raftis, CID President

On the 29th of April, as every year since 1982, Dance Day was celebrated all over the world by the international community of dancers and dance enthusiasts.

The International Dance Council CID prepared guidelines as a useful checklist for persons institutionally involved in the wider field of dance: teachers, choreographers, group leaders, journalists, researchers, associations, suppliers and organizations.

The main purpose of Dance Day events is to attract the attention of the wider public to the art of dance. Special emphasis is given to addressing a "new" public, people who do not follow dance events during the course of the year.

To plan your Dance Day event for next year, consult the guidelines at www.cid-unesco.org; you'll find Dance Day under "Programs."

Moving Mysteries Go West

By Cathy Saine, President of the Southern California Chapter

The Southern California Chapter sponsored Moving Mysteries Go West workshop on Saturday, February 21, 2009. The aim was to bring a few highlights from the SDG Golden Jubilee Celebration in Connecticut to those who could not attend and also recapture some of that marvelous spirit to share and enjoy. Members of this chapter are particularly hospitable and gregarious, so a great day happened.

We are fortunate to have a wonderful array of gifted dancers that included some of the Connecticut presenters. Emmalyn Moreno, who wrote and choreographed the theme song, *Moving Mysteries* was our first presenter. Emmalyn elaborated on this choreography, which went beyond the movements she taught at Festival. One must note that even though this more intricate choreography was quite wonderful, our dance on the college lawn as a group (a very large group), surrounded by lush, mammoth trees and beautiful smiling faces, who had come from near and far, was quite an experience—one that will never be duplicated. Yet it was great to have Em open her choreography to other variations.

Ellie Haffey was a new presenter for this chapter and was well received by

everyone. Ellie shared some exercises by InterPlay. She was a lot of fun and exhibited the playfulness and joy associated with InterPlay. The word exploration process, led by Ellie, was quite intriguing in that it was designed to put one at ease and bring them gently to a point of expression through dance, a very simple, but brilliant process.

Cathy Saine and two of her friends/dancers (Aren't these the best kind of friends!), Cathy Glidden and Christie Johnson shared a piece that they choreographed to *Breath of Heaven* by Amy Grant for a Christmas Eve prelude. The point to be made from this sharing was a statement by Judith Rock, "Don't assume anything." These rather mature dancers felt that certain parts of the song had to be danced by one much younger. The young dancer was diligently pursued without success, in fact, four of them. So the "assumption" was necessarily negated and the three aged ones brought down the house or more correctly the church.

The dancers broke into small groups and each choreographed a short piece as per Saine's criteria: include running, walking, stillness and use of focus as in direction of the head. The short dances

were wonderful, educational and fun to critique.

Stella Matsuda, past president of SDG and Festival presenter led a dance to *Come Drink Deep*, by Carolyn McDade. The dance was very meditative with a healing quality that left the dancer with a feeling of being cleansed. The dance is quite beautiful and exemplifies Stella's gracious quality. Yet, Stella encouraged the dancers to take the piece, elaborate and make it their own.

A healing exercise from one of Kathryn Mihelick's classes was led by Stella Matsuda. The exercise was quite simple and brought forth a surprising abundance of energy. The repetitive exercise focused on one person at a time in the center of a small circle, with the others uplifting that person will love and prayers - quite powerful!

The day was full; it did not lag. The sessions were diversified. One new attendee exclaimed how comfortable she was in the space and with the other dancers, who were so full of acceptance. "The camaraderie was incredible," she quickly added.

It was a really good day; we need more of them.



"Come Drink Deep" taught by Stella Matsuda, music by Carolyn McDade.

Photo by Stella Matsuda

Chasing the Dance of Life by Cynthia Winton-Henry

A Review by Connie Tyler

Want to laugh and cry, and say, "Oh, my?"

And then, "Oh, yes, oh, yes?"

Read Cynthia Winton-Henry's new book, *Chasing the Dance of Life – a faith journey*.

Cynthia, co-founder of InterPlay, speaks with candor and honesty about her struggle to find a place in the world for her dancing spirituality. She says of herself, "What do you do if you hear voices or see things? ... You should shut up. However, if there are voices that prod you to quench the thirst for big human needs like Love, Justice, and Freedom, you might become a blabbermouth performance artist like me." (p. 9) Like a ballerina doing *tour jetes* in a china shop, Cynthia plunges into confrontation with church officials and august parishioners, while we stand with our mouths open in admiration and fear.

She starts with her struggles as a child, teenager, and college student to pull her love of dance and her spiritual inclinations together. Her joy at finding Carla DeSola, Doug Adams, Pacific School of Religion,

Judith Rock, and the Sacred Dance Guild is tempered by the struggle as an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to carry dance into the church. When, eventually, she finds she needs to renounce her ordination she doesn't just slip away from the church, she demands the right to have a ceremony of de-ordination to counter the ordination ceremony.

She wrote this memoir specifically to show why she eventually renounced her ordination, but her struggles go beyond just the struggle with this particular denomination or even with "the church" in its larger sense. She is struggling with the way of life she grew up with, finding new ways to approach people who are different, new ways to see our world, our life.

When subtle acts of humming birds and eagles speak to her, she dares to see them as prophecy. She analyses marriage and comes up with new metaphors that better fit reality than the older ones that don't seem to work. She jumps dancing

feet first into life and discovers, "For young or old, the universe loves a dancer." (p. 216)

And the message? She says:

Stubborn standers, beware.

Planted on twin pillars

Of righteousness

And self-righteousness

Your footing stiffens

In that precarious pose.

Resist – you stand against.

Consist – you stand with.

Persist – you stand through.

Insist – you stand in.

All stands degrade.

Want peace?

Release your footing.

Dance life's stubborn dance

(Winton-Henry, Cynthia, *Chasing the Dance of Life – a faith journey*, Berkeley, CA, the apocryphile press, 2009, 255 pp)



Photo by Stella Matsuda

Rosemary Lucier having fun with Interplay taught by Ellie at the Moving Mysteries Go West Workshop.

RECIPROCAL AFFILIATIONS

The Sacred Dance Guild has collegial status with the following organizations: This is a reciprocal agreement whereby members of the Guild may attend activities of these organizations at the same fee their own members pay (proof of SDG membership is required). Members of these organizations may attend Guild activities in the same way.

American Dance Guild, c/o Dr. Lynette Overby, 12 West Delaware Avenue, Newark, DE 19716, (302) 831-7064 (O), (517) 719-3122 (C), overbyl@udel.edu.

International Association for Creative Dance (IACD), 103 Princeton Avenue, Providence, RI 02907, website www.dancecreative.org.

International Liturgical Dance Association (ILDA) of NPM (National Association of Pastoral Musicians), 3215 Bellacre Court, Cincinnati, OH 45248-5005 (513) 451-6746.

National Dance Association, American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, 1900 Association Drive, Reston, VA 22091 (703) 476-3436.

BEHIND BARBED WIRE

By Cathy Saine, President of the Southern California Chapter of the SDG

The years have flown by since I attended my first Sacred Dance Guild Festival at Berkley, California. This experience continued a turning point, which deepened my quest for a more intimate relationship with my loving God and Savior Jesus Christ. A closer relationship to the Lord was being brought about by what is to me, quintessential prayer—dance. It was here that I would meet a person who would bring me to a very humbling, beautiful, dance ministry

This person was the vivacious Margaret Taylor Doane, then in her eighties and one of the founders of SDG. Margaret gave a very memorable class. She was absolutely amazing, on fire with her love of God and the need to express her relationship with her Lord through sacred movement. Highly spiritual and a lot of fun, her Good Samaritan dance in particular reflected her spunky side. I enjoyed teaching this dance to my religious ed kids. Many years later I was to be touched again by this gracious lady.

Three other members and I equally shared a grant which Margaret so thoughtfully bequeathed, with the stipulation that the gift was to be used to

benefit our youth. The inmates at the Ventura Youth Correctional Facility here in Camarillo, CA, where I reside, were to be recipients. Furthermore, I planned to have only the best of our presenters do a workshop, which I earnestly tried to accomplish. Instead, God sent me.

After the lengthy, security clearance phase, including testing for TB, I have experienced almost a year of very fulfilling and challenging ministry to the incarcerated. The inmates are comprised of less than 100 women and a slightly higher number of men, ages from 14 to 24 years old. The men and women are segregated that includes separate worship services and workshops. I participate regularly in worship services, for both genders, including Christmas Eve day. This year Good Friday and Easter Sunday are on the agenda as well.

On March 15, 2009, my dancing friend, Cathy Glidden and I, conducted our third workshop. The workshops keep getting better and better, thanks be to God. More girls are in attendance and they are participating more. They are not so timid and withdrawn. We experience the range of having fun and delving

deeper into our relationships with God.

At the first workshop, one dancer stated, "It [workshop] was refreshing and it cleared my head of negative thoughts." Another commented, "It was a unique experience because I never thought I would be doing something like that in here. It was a touching experience."

Our coordinator, Chaplin Catherine Conneally-Salazar also said after the first workshop, "What a joy it was to see these young women become 'free' to express themselves in movement and to move beyond their inhibitions. I loved seeing their smiles and laughter as they did the exercises. They are all asking when the teachers are coming again."

Cathy Glidden and I have come back. We have danced for and with these young women and men, who live within the confines of barbed wire and under the watchful eyes of prison guards. We pray, sing, read scripture and play percussion instruments with them. Neither one of us had previous experience with this particular population. Initially, we had no specific expectations, but felt that we were doing God's work. Our hearts are open and we pray that the Holy Spirit leads us.



Emmalyn Moreno explaining "We Are One" at the Moving Myseries Go West Workshop.

Photo by Stella Matsuda

SD-GO: ANNOUNCING THE SACRED DANCE GLOBAL OUTREACH

Last year, the Sacred Dance Guild celebrated its Golden Anniversary, fifty years of sacred, spiritual, spellbinding dancing. It was a glorious half-century, full of wonder, discovery, love, and, of course, dance. But it was just a beginning. As we looked ahead to our next 50 years, we realized we needed and wanted to do more...to reach higher, bend deeper, take a bigger leap. Make a bigger difference to even more people.

In February 2009 the Executive Board of the Sacred Dance Guild voted to establish a global outreach initiative to address, through sacred dance, the needs and suffering of our brother and sister dancers throughout the world. We agreed to call this historic measure the **Sacred Dance Global Outreach**, to be known as **SD-GO**, an acronym implying action and direction.

Mission Statement - The Sacred Dance Guild is an international, interfaith, non-profit organization with a commitment to advocate for the understanding of dance as a sacred art and to promote dance as a

means of spiritual growth and integration of mind, body and spirit. In honor of our 50th Anniversary Year, we extend our mission with the *Sacred Dance Global Outreach* (SD-GO), a commitment to raise awareness of dance as a unifying, healing, transforming force and to support and encourage all dancers everywhere who are actively living out of these principles, particularly under conditions of oppression and threat. We invite dancers worldwide to join us as we choreograph our next 50 years into a dance of universal harmony.

How It Began - The inspiration for SD-GO came through an article in *Dance Magazine* (September 2008) about the Baghdad Ballet School, an oasis in a strife-torn city for the young artists who study there. We were touched to read about Christian, Muslim, and other students who work harmoniously together, rising above the chaos and violence engendered by religious differences in their society.

We were saddened to learn that political tensions in Baghdad have affected

this inspirational school, making it difficult for those students and their teachers to train in peace or to get the dancewear, music, and other supplies they need for class. We vowed to help the Baghdad students and others like them by bearing witness to their plight and offering aid and support in whatever ways we can. GOing FORWARD we are just beginning this exciting journey of global transformation and do not yet know where it will take us, but we are GOing!

Our first scheduled event of the SD-GO is the "Culture Fest 2009: Dancing Divine Diversity," slated for September 18-20 in Lexington, Massachusetts. There are sure to be many more events as well as other opportunities to become involved, dance with us, and donate to the cause. Watch for more news.

If you are interested in GOing with us, check our website, www.sacred-danceguild.org for more information on SD-GO activities, or contact Linda Telesco at pr@sacreddanceguild.org. Let's GO dancing!

SACRED DANCE GLOBAL OUTREACH Presents CultureFest: Dancing Divine Diversity September 18-20, Boston Metro Area

Dance as a sacred art...making the world a better place

The Sacred Dance Guild invites you to join us in our first SD-GO (Sacred Dance Global Outreach) initiative to benefit struggling "at risk" dance and music programs at home and abroad:

CultureFest 2009: Dancing Divine Diversity Schedule of Events

Friday, September 18 (7:30 - 9:00 pm): Meet the Dancers
Program: Social gathering with circle dancing and group demonstrations
Location: TBA

Saturday, September 19 (9:00 am - 4:00 pm): Dancing Divine Diversity
Program: Multicultural interactive dance workshops
Location: Studio Ballet of Hudson, 14 Main Street, Hudson, MA

Sunday, September 20 (2:30 pm) Moving Mysteries
Location: National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Rd., Lexington, MA
Program: Benefit Performance featuring:

CREATIONDANCE Sacred Dance Company along with:
Armenian Folk Dance Traditional Chinese East Indian Classical
Native American American Jazz Improvisation Classical Ballet

CultureFest is a non-profit, educational/charitable project initiated by the Sacred Dance Guild's Global Outreach (SD-GO).

For more information contact Elaine Sisler at ehsisler@comcast.net and visit our website for updates: www.sacreddanceguild.org

Don't Miss the SDG Annual Membership Meeting August 8, 2009 at Caldwell College in Caldwell, New Jersey

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may be purchased in the college cafeteria and, the cost of housing is \$35.00 per night, per person. Dorms are modern and air-conditioned.

Friday Evening (7:00-9:00 pm):

- Executive Board Meeting
- Dinner in the cafeteria at 6:00 pm

Saturday (9:00 am- 9:00 pm):

- Executive Board Meeting (9:00 am-12:00 Noon)
- Workshop Registration (11:00 am-12:00 Noon)
- Lunch (12:00-1:00 pm)
- Annual Membership Meeting (1:00-2:00 pm)
- Break Time (2:00-2:15 pm)
- Dance Workshop (2:30-4:30 pm)
- Set-up Time for Sharing (4:30-5:00 pm)
- Sharing (5:00-6:00 pm)

Executive Board Meal time will follow Sharing

- Executive Board Meeting (7:00-9:00 pm)

Sunday

- (9:00 am-12:00 Noon): Executive Board Meeting

Registration:

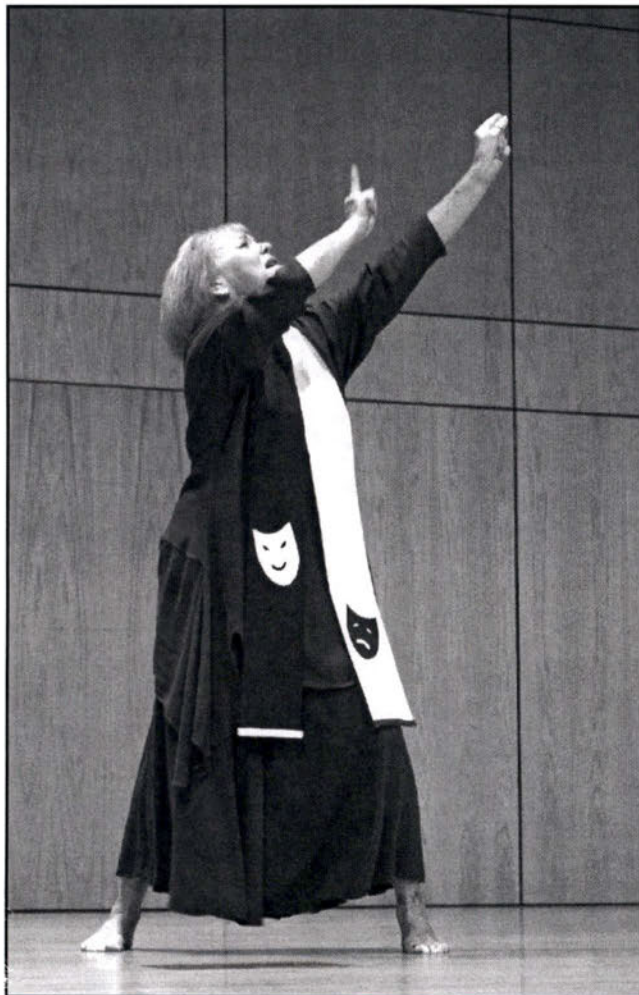
In the spirit of generosity as an "ECONOMY STIMULUS SPECIAL RATE," please note the following costs:

- College Students with student identification (\$10.00)
- Sacred Dance Guild Members (\$20.00)
- Non-Members (\$30.00) * Member rate available upon completing membership application.

Mark your calendars. Spread the Word. Pack your bags!
We will keep you posted via the website, email and SDG publications.

Your committee members want to hear from you:

Mary Kasakove; Barbara McFarquhar; Linda Telesco; Merle Wade



**Impossible
Dream to Doug
from Festival
2008 by Karen
Josephson.**

What:

The 2009 Annual
Meeting of the Sacred
Dance Guild

When:

August 8, 2009

Why:

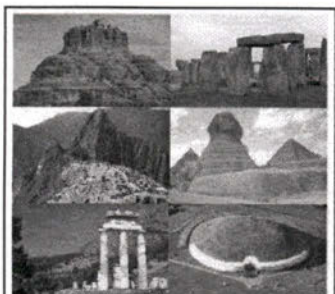
To share in the joy of
Sacred Dance and to
experience the
excitement of being a
part of the Sacred
Dance Guild's annual
meeting

Where:

Caldwell College,
Caldwell, NJ

How:

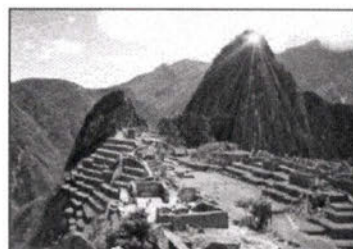
Visit the web site at
www.sacreddanceguild.org
for more information



*Sacred Sites
Journeys*

Sacred Dance Journey to PERU

June 28— July 6, 2009



Sponsored by The Sacred Dance Guild

Founded in 1958, The Sacred Dance Guild, an international, multicultural, interfaith, nonprofit organization, promotes Sacred Dance as prayer, and as a means of spiritual growth, connection to The Divine, and integration of mind, body, and spirit. www.sacreddanceguild.org

Tour Hostess and Featured Dancer: Dr. JoyBeth Lufty
Sacred Dance Guild President Elect

Tour Director and Featured Speaker: Andrea Mikana-Pinkham
Director of Sacred Sites Journeys & Andean Shamanic Practitioner

Tour Guide: Dr. Jose (Pepe) Altamirano
Peruvian Mystic and Ritual Specialist in the Inca Spiritual Tradition
Former Director of the National Institute of Culture
Former Executive Director of the National Park of Sacsayhuaman
Author of *Sacsayhuaman: The Most Powerful Temple of the Andean Culture*

Your Sacred Dance Guild Journey Includes:

- ◆ Two flights in Peru: Lima/Cusco; Juliaca/Lima
- ◆ Other tour-related transportation in Peru, including bus, rail, and boat
- ◆ Roundtrip airport/hotel/airport transfers
- ◆ Luggage handling at hotels
- ◆ All site entrance fees
- ◆ First-class hotels, including taxes, service charges & daily buffet breakfast
- ◆ Other meals, as per the itinerary
- ◆ Pre-paid Gratuities
- ◆ Free Peruvian Tourist Visa upon your arrival in Lima
- ◆ Fully escorted from Cusco by Andrea Mikana-Pinkham, Director of Sacred Sites Journeys
- ◆ Excellent bilingual Tour Guide Dr. Jose (Pepe) Altamirano

NOT INCLUDED:

Roundtrip international air to Lima, Peru
Airport departure taxes for flights in Peru
International departure tax to leave Peru
Cost to obtain valid passport
Any items of a personal nature such as laundry, drinks & phone calls

Special Added Features

- Travel with Dr. JoyBeth Lufty, Sacred Dance Guild members, & others interested in Sacred Dance
- Learn and participate in Body Prayers led with Dr. JoyBeth Lufty
- Shared Dancing with members of the Sacred Dance Guild
- Learn traditional Andean dances from members of local dance guilds
- Sites in and around Cusco: Sacsayhuaman, Tambo Machay & Temple of the Moon, with a special blessing from the Q'ero Elders, last remaining descendants of the Incas
- Sites in the Sacred Valley of the Incas: Pisac and Ollantaytambo
- Machu Picchu, 7th Wonder of the World - with plenty of free time to explore on your own! Special Sunrise Ceremony at Machu Picchu
- Traditional Andean ceremonies with Dr. Jose (Pepe) Altamirano, Andrea Mikana-Pinkham & the Q'ero Elders
- Special Welcome Dinner with Andean musicians and dancers
- Uros Floating Islands - dance with the Islanders!
- Aramu Muru's Doorway
- Magic Dream Pillow Art Project & used clothing share with local children at Lake Titicaca
- Farewell Dinner at Lake Titicaca, with Andean musicians and dancers
- Optional at Lake Titicaca: Traditional Coca Leaf Readings; Visit to the Fertility Temple; Spa Facilities and Massage

SDG CHAPTER AND REGION NEWS

New York/SW CT Chapter

"Praise God with Timbrel and Dance," a Thanksgiving Dance Vesper Service celebrating the Bicentennial of the Archdiocese of New York was held on Saturday, November 22, 2008 at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in New York City. This event was coordinated by Chapter Vice President, Betsy O'Neill. Chapter member, Mary Christine O'Connor-Thomsen served as consultant and cantor. Numerous members of the Guild danced in this historical and moving event.

The Chapter sponsored a workshop, "the Spirit of Movement" on Saturday, January 31, 2009 at St. Stephen of Hungary Church in Manhattan, New York. Guided by the presenter, Wesley Yarbor, the participants enjoyed a joyous, high energy movement experience which included both a class and learning original choreography by Wes.

Chapter member, Jean Ando, participated in a recreation of the "Hymn of Christ," a dance drama of the last week of Jesus' life, with original choreography by Bernard Wosien, founder of Sacred Circle Dance. The Hymn comes from the Apocryphal Gospel of John in which it says that after the Last Supper, Jesus and the disciples went out and sang a hymn and danced. The filming took place in Findhorn, Scotland, last September. The DVD of the production will be released in late April.

Lakeshore Chapter

A Weekend of Sacred Dance was presented by the Lakeshore Chapter at Reba Place Church in Evanston, Illinois on March 28, 2009. Indi Dieckgrafe and Carolyn Hine-Johnson presented classes. Chapter President Katie Jean Dahlaw danced at the Sunday worship service.

Workshops generated spiritual ideas (FUELS) and movement vocabulary (TOOLS) through various approaches.

The Third Annual Women's Spirituality Conference took place on March 21, 2009 at the North Shore Senior Center in Northfield, Illinois. The Conference offered women of all ages and beliefs an opportunity to experience in community with other like-minded women different tools and insight to use on their spiritual journey.

Women were invited to join together and dedicate the day to their own growth and development. Each participant chose three workshops from a list of 13.

The day started and ended with a ritual of song and dance in the atrium of the Center. Michele Marie Beaulieux led the opening and closing prayer for the conference.

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www.interplay.org

Events happening all over the country
and around the world!

510/465-2797
info@interplay.org

An E-list for All Members:

SDG Member News

From Membership Director, Ellen Young

Through our new website we have set up a new elist for members. It's called SDG Member News and its purpose is to enable members to share their news and their ideas with other members who want to hear from them.

Members who were previously on our "allmembers" elist have been transferred to the new list.

If you would like to join this list, go to www.sacreddanceguild.org and sign into the Members Only section of the website. Find your member record (profile) by using "simple search" under "Member Directory" and click on edit. You need to do two things: 1) be sure your email is in the field called "email address for elist subscriptions" and 2) choose SDG MemberNews in the "elist subscriptions" field.

If you wish to be removed from this list, it is even easier: when you edit your member record, choose none in the "elist subscriptions" field.

After you make any changes, remember to use the "save" button at the bottom of the screen!

The opportunity to keep in touch with each other across the continent and around the world is one of the advantages of membership in the Sacred Dance Guild.

Advertise in the SDG Journal

Ad per ONE (1) issue

One-half page.....\$100.00

One-quarter page.....60.00

One-eighth or business card.....40.00

Ad per TWO (2) issues

One-half page.....\$175.00

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Call for Proposals

23rd World Congress on Dance Research, Athens, Greece, 1-5 July 2009

Confirmed professionals are invited to submit proposals for: performances, classes, research reports, lecture-demonstrations, exhibitions/sales, video projections.

All forms of dance: ballet, modern, folk, ballroom, contemporary, traditional, classical, ethnic, etc. All approaches: teaching, performing, research, therapy, criticism, recreation, management, journalism, etc.

This is the largest gathering of dance experts in the world, largest number of conferees, largest number of countries. Maximum publicity. Official recognition. Scientific Committee.

Strictly non-commercial. Not to be confused with festivals, conferences, workshops, symposiums, trade fairs, competitions, etc. while containing many of their most important features.

Visit www.orchesis-portal/cdr/. Deadline is May 30, 2009.



**Memories of
Festival 2008
Living Legacy
Tea Time**



**Memories of Festival 2008
Toni' Intravaia and Karen Josephson.**

Resources Corner

by Kat Pettycrew, Co-director Resources

New Garment Website to Check Out!

If you haven't come across it yet, take a look at the Active Prayers website. They specialize in sacred dance garments, and the Heaven Dress in the Sabrina McKenzie collection is really lovely. They carry everything from dresses to leotards, pants and tunics, as well as scarves, drapes, and T-shirts.

Prices are very reasonable for most things, and sizes run from a Child's Small to 4X (hallelujah!) (Plus sizes cost a little more, as usual.) They have a good selection and shipping prices are fair.

Give them a look!

<http://www.activeprayers.com/store/index.php>

Peace!

YOUTH FOCUS

Wherever Dancers Dance is Sacred Ground...

By Elaine Herg Sisler

Last summer I was fortunate to vacation with my husband and several friends at Château La Gorce, a 15th century castle in the Bordeaux region of France. Imagine my delight when I learned of a chapel in the château. Immediately I had visions of dancing and praying in an ancient, gothic and holy place.

As the sun set on our arrival date, I opened the heavy chapel door to reveal a disappointing sight. There were dense spider webs hanging from the windows and mouse droppings littered the altar and kneelers. I noticed a renovation date of 1645 etched into one of the walls. I couldn't help but wonder how many weddings; funerals and other rituals may have taken place in this space that now looked so abandoned and dirty.

As my mind raced, I heard my husband say, "Don't even think about it. You are on vacation." Now those who know me well know also that I enjoy cleaning and rearranging things as I go. It took great restraint not to start tidying up the chapel right then and there. My dear friend Kathleen who was standing by my side smiled and gently nodded her head. Silently we both agreed to a plan.

A few days later after a lazy afternoon by the pool, I decided to revisit the chapel. This time I was armed with rags, broom, dustpan and a lovely bucket of warm soapy water. It wasn't long before the sunlight was streaming in through web-free stained glass windows. The kneelers glistened as I dressed the altar with linen found in the château's dining room. Kathleen created floral arrangements by trimming the terrace



Elaine Herg Sisler at the chapel in France.

gardens and converting used water bottles into vases. Soon our chapel was a cozy and welcoming place.

The following Sunday we were visited by dear friends who live several villages away from the château. Their two adorable little sons had a glorious time exploring the castle and its beautiful grounds. Later in the day we all gathered in the chapel. When one of the children saw the altar decorated with flowers he asked, "Qui est mort?" ("Who died?"). Our laughter echoed off the

ancient walls as the music began and we danced holding hands in a circle. The children became solemn and mesmerized as the adults exchanged glances of gratitude, love and friendship. Sunlight sparkled through the windows blessing us just as it had done to many others over the centuries. Life and joy returned to the little chapel etching a beautiful memory in our minds as our bodies danced sacred peace and beauty into our souls and back to this holy place.

Dance for JOY!

Children's Praise Dance Workshop

By Lakita Humber

The members of JOYED UP! children's praise dance ministry invite you to attend Dance for JOY! A youth praise workshop hosted by kids, for kids!

A workshop will take place on Saturday, April 25, 2009 at the O'Fallon Apostolic Assembly Church, 403 S. Lincoln Avenue, O'Fallon, Illinois.

Register at <http://danceforjoy.eventbrite.com>. Parents/Leaders can register for free with a youth registration and there will be a special track for them as well.

A portion of our proceeds will support an International Mission field of choice (Haiti) and locally support a children's home located south of St. Louis.



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RECOMMENDED READING / VIEWING

More ideas for working with seniors? Order book *Soul to Sole with Seniors* edited by Margaret Taylor Doane and Jeannine Bunyan. Order from Jeannine Bunyan Jump4JoyJB1@verizon.net.

And We Have Danced, Volume III. This third volume would certainly be great not only for our members but for those interested in sacred dance. (Cost \$20.00 including postage and handling) Order from Toni' Intravaia, 201 Hewitt, Carbondale, Illinois 62901.

A Practical Guide to Dancing in Worship by Deena Bess Sherman, M.A. Liturgical dance is the practice of sacred dance within the context of liturgical worship. It provides historical, theological background and practical advice from someone who has danced and worked with groups of dancers for many years.

Send your order with a check or money order (\$12 per book and \$3.00 shipping) to: Deena Sherman, PO Box 119, North Aurora, IL 60542. (If you would like

your book signed, please specify the name. Otherwise it will simply be autographed.)

Chasing the Dance of Life by Cynthia Winton-Henry, The Apocryphile Press. See review of this exciting new volume by Connie Tyler under the Theme. Contact: Cynthia Winton-Henry.

Dancing the Deep Hum by Connie Pwll Walck Tyler, published by Deep Hum Productions, Berkeley, California. This is "one woman's ideas about how to live in a dancing, singing universe!" Illustrations, both cover and throughout the pages, are by the author. As Connie says: "Understanding that life is constant change, both externally and internally, that bits and pieces of the rest of the universe are constantly moving in and out of our 'selves' bringing new information and insight and helping us grow into more connected beings; finding out there might be more than one way to get wherever we're going and accepting the rights of others to believe in different ways; and reaching into the 'self-awareness' of the universe" may lead us to suspect that individual identity is a myth.

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CALENDAR

April 8, 2009 - Blessing the sun that rises with healing in its rays: A Prophetic Voice in Jewish, Multireligious, and American Life. Contact: Rabbi Arthur Waskow or carlart@mindspring.com.

April 25, 2009 - Dance for Joy! Children's Praise Dance Workshop, hosted for Kids by Kids, April 25, 2009, at O'Fallon Apostolic Assembly, O'Fallon, IL. Contact: <http://danceforjoy.eventbrite.com>.

June 19-26, 2009 - International Association for Creative Dance Congress, at Hampshire College, Amherst, MA. Contact: www.dancecreative.org.

June 21-26, 2009 - IACD Dance Congress, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA. Contact: Griff Goehring, P.O. Box 6053, Brattleboro, VT 05301.

June 28-July 6, 2009 - Sacred Dance Journey to Peru, Sponsored by The Sacred Dance Guild with Dr. JoyBeth Lufty, Tour Hostess; Andrea Mikana-Pinkham, Tour Director; Dr. Jose Altamirano, Tour Guide. Contact: JoyBeth Lufty souldelite@aol.com.

June 28 - July 3, 2009 - Contemplative Dance/Authentic Movement 21st Annual - Week I (Basic), Genesis Spiritual Life Center, Westfield, MA. Contact: Alton Wasson: altonwasson.comcast.net or phone 413-268-3294.

June 29-July 5, 2009 - "Embodying Faith: Dancing and Clowning Together" at Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu. Contact: Kim at kholydancer@msn.com.

July 1-5, 2009 - 23rd World Congress on Dance Research, Athens. Contact: www.orchesis-portal.org/cdr/.

July 12-16, 2009 - National Convention, Fellowship of United Methodists In Music and Worship Arts, Orlando, FL. Contact: www.FUMMWA.org.

July 26-31, 2009 - Contemplative Dance/Authentic Movement 17th Annual - Week II (Experienced), Genesis Spiritual Live Center, Westfield, MA. Contact: Alton Wasson altonwasson@comcast.net.

August 7-9, 2009 - Dance Workshop with Wesley Yarbor, Executive Board Meeting, Annual Membership Meeting, at Caldwell College, Caldwell, N.J. Contact: Merle Wade, pmerle1@msn.com.

September 10-13, 2009 - ADG Festival, Manhattan Movement Arts Center,

West 60th St, New York City. Contact: ADG headquarters, P.O. Box Planetarium Station, New York 10024.

September 18-20, 2009 - Culture Dancing Divine Diversity, Boston MA Area - Contact Elaine Sisler ehsisler@comcast.net.

Executive Board Meeting and Annual Membership Meeting:

August 7-9, 2009, Caldwell College, Caldwell, New Jersey

Sacred Dance Guild Web Site: www.sacreddanceguild.org

You can apply for membership to the Sacred Dance Guild in three ways: 1) Complete form and return with your membership dues. 2) Join online at our web www.sacreddanceguild.org. 3) Email to address below.

Name _____	Address _____	City _____	State/Province _____
Country/Zip/Postal Code _____	Phone _____	Email _____	
Membership Dues:		1 year Domestic/International Membership	\$50
		2 year Domestic/International Membership	\$80
		1 year Student Membership	\$20
		1 year Senior (65+) Membership	\$30
		1 year Group Membership	\$90
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